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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/453,127	12/02/1999	JAMES STEVEN LUKE	UK999084	2201

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CAO H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 03/28/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/453,127

Applicant(s)

Luke

Examiner
Cao "Kevin" Nguyen

Art Unit
2173



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Dec 2, 1999
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirements.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Henderson et al. (US Patent No. 6,185,603).

Regarding claim 1, Henderson discloses a method for generating a prioritized view of a plurality of messages (see Abstract), comprising the steps of: defining one or more concepts against which a message can be prioritized, the or each concept comprising one or more conditions against which a message can be tested (see col. 4, lines 8-37); for each message, generating a fit to a selected one or more of said concepts, said fit corresponding to whether or not said message fulfils said conditions (see col. 5, lines 4-51); and creating a display representative of the respective fits of said messages to said one or more selected concepts (see col. 5, lines 52-64).

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Regarding claim 2, Henderson discloses wherein said display creating step comprises displaying respective cells associated with messages in one or more rows or columns (see figures 2-3).

Regarding claim 3, Henderson discloses wherein said concept defining step comprises associating a concept with a display parameter comprising one of a colour or size (see col. 7, lines 12-29).

Regarding claim 4, Henderson discloses wherein said display creating step is responsive to a user selecting a prioritized view according to a concept associated with a colour, to display said cells in an intensity of said colour proportional to the fit of their associated message to said concept (see col. 8, lines 1-30).

Regarding claim 5, Henderson discloses wherein said display creating step is responsive to a user selecting a prioritized view according to a concept associated with size, to display said cells with a length proportional to the fit of their associated message to said concept (see col. 8, lines 32-65).

Regarding claim 6, Henderson discloses wherein said display creating step is responsive to a user selecting a prioritized view according to a first concept associated with a colour and a second concept associated with size, to display said cells in an intensity of said colour proportional to the fit of their associated message to said first concept and with a length proportional to the fit of their associated message to said second concept (see col. 9, lines 50-65, figures 1-3).

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Regarding claims 7 and 8, Henderson discloses wherein said display creating step is responsive to a user selecting a prioritized view according to first and second concepts, each associated with a respective colour, to display said cells in a colour according to the best fit of their associated message to one of said first and second concepts; and wherein said display creating step is responsive to a user selecting a prioritized view according to a third concept associated with size, to display said cells with a length proportional to the fit of their associated message to said third concept (see col. 7-8, lines 1-67 and figures 1-3).

As per claims 9-19 are apparatus claims that corresponds to method claims 1-8, and thus are rejected for the aforementioned reason.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. (PTO-892).

Response

4. Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. If applicant desires to fax a response, (703) 308-9051 may be used for formal communications or (703) 305-9724 for informal or draft communications.

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Please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" for informal facsimile communications. For after final responses, please label "AFTER FINAL" or "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE" on the document.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA. Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Inquires

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cao (Kevin) Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Cabeca, can be reached on (703) 308-3116. The fax number for this group is (703) 308-6606.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.



Cao (Kevin) Nguyen

Primary Examiner (AU 2173)

March 15, 2002